

Appln. No. 10/700,949
Amendment dated March 21, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed December 21, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1 1. (Currently Amended) A foot mobility aid, comprising:
2 an elongate flexible strap having a pair of opposite ends ~~;~~ ~~and~~ a first
3 of said ends of said strap being folded back over an adjacent
4 portion of said strap and coupled to said adjacent portion of said
5 strap to form a foot loop adjacent said first end of said strap;
6 a resiliently deformable pad being removably mounted on said strap in
7 said foot loop; and
8 means on said strap for adjusting an effective circumference of said
9 foot loop formed by said strap.

1 2. (Original) The foot mobility aid of claim 1, wherein said flexible
2 strap having has a generally rectangular transverse cross section and having
3 a pair of opposite faces, and a pair of side edges extending between said
4 ends of said strap.

1 3. (Original) The foot mobility aid of claim 2, wherein said strap has
2 a length defined between said ends of said strap and a width defined
3 between said side edges of said strap, wherein said length of said strap is
4 greater than about 2 feet, wherein said width of said strap is greater than
5 about ½ inch.

1 4. (Original) The foot mobility aid of claim 3, wherein said length of
2 said strap is between about 3 feet and about 6 feet, and wherein said width
3 of said strap is between about 1 inch and about 3 inches.

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1 5. (Original) The foot mobility aid of claim 1, wherein a buckle
2 detachably couples said first end of said strap to said adjacent portion of
3 said strap.

1 6. (Currently Amended) The foot mobility aid of claim [[[1]]] 7,
2 ~~further comprising a resiliently deformable pad being coupled to said strap~~
3 ~~in said foot loop wherein said hook and loop fastener has a pair of~~
4 complementarily attachable portions; one of said portions being provided on
5 said pad, the other of said portions being provided on said strap in said foot
6 loop.

1 7. (Currently Amended) The foot mobility aid of claim [[[6]]] 1,
2 wherein a hook and loop fastener ~~detachably couples~~ removably mounts said
3 pad to said strap in said foot loop.

1 8. (Original) The foot mobility aid of claim 1, further comprising a
2 handle being coupled to a second of said ends of said strap.

1 9. (Currently Amended) The foot mobility aid of claim 8, wherein
2 said handle is extended substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of
3 said elongate strap.

1 10. (Currently Amended) A foot mobility aid, comprising:
2 an elongate flexible strap having a pair of opposite first and second
3 ends, a first end portion being positioned adjacent said first end;
4 said flexible strap having a generally rectangular transverse cross
5 section and having a pair of opposite faces, and a pair of side
6 edges extending between said ends of said strap;
7 said strap having a length defined between said ends of said strap and
8 a width defined between said side edges of said strap;
9 wherein said length of said strap is about 5 feet;
10 wherein said width of said strap is about 2 inches for optimal comfort
11 for a user's foot and flexibility of the strap;

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12 a first of said ends of said strap being folded back over an adjacent
13 portion of said strap and coupled to said adjacent portion of said
14 strap to form a foot loop adjacent said first end of said strap;
15 said foot loop being adapted for extending the foot of a user therein
16 such that the arch region of the user's foot is positioned in said
17 foot loop;
18 ~~wherein a buckle detachably couples said first end of said strap to said~~
19 ~~adjacent portion of said strap;~~
20 a resiliently deformable pad being ~~coupled to~~ removably mounted on
21 said strap in said foot loop, wherein a hook and loop fastener
22 ~~detachably couples~~ removably mounts said pad to said strap in
23 said foot loop;
24 a handle being coupled to a second of said ends of said strap; and
25 said handle being extended substantially perpendicular to said strap,
26 said handle having a plurality of finger grooves;
27 means on said strap for adjusting an effective circumference of said
28 foot loop formed by said strap, said means for adjusting an effective
29 circumference of said foot loop comprising:
30 a plurality of apertures extending through said strap and being
31 arranged substantially along a line extending from said first end
32 toward said second end;
33 a buckle for detachably coupling said first end of said strap to a
34 location on said strap between said first and second ends of said strap
35 to form said foot loop, said buckle being mounted on said strap at a
36 spaced location from said first end of said strap, said buckle defining
37 an opening for receiving said first end portion of said strap, said
38 buckle including a prong insertable into one of said apertures formed
39 in said first end portion of said strap to adjust a position of said end
40 portion of said strap with respect to said buckle to adjust a
41 circumference of said foot loop.

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11. (New) The foot mobility aid of claim 1, wherein said strap has opposite first and second ends, a first end portion being located adjacent to said first end; and

wherein said means for adjusting an effective circumference of said foot loop comprises:

a plurality of apertures extending through said strap and being arranged substantially along a line extending from said first end toward said second end; and

a buckle for detachably coupling said first end of said strap to a location on said strap between said first and second ends of said strap to form said foot loop, said buckle being mounted on said strap at a spaced location from said first end of said strap, said buckle defining an opening for receiving said first end portion of said strap, said buckle including a prong insertable into one of said apertures formed in said first end portion of said strap to adjust a position of said end portion of said strap with respect to said buckle to adjust a circumference of said foot loop.